

The Polk County Observer

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(THE HOME PAPER)

DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1914.

(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 17

OFFER IS ACCEPTED

To Prevent War President Wilson Approves Mediation.

MAY SETTLE MEXICAN TROUBLE

One Offensive Act on Part of Huerta, However, Will End All Negotiations.

The United States has agreed that it will accept any proper plan which Brazil, Argentina and Chile can get Mexico to agree to, whereby an honorable settlement of the matters in dispute may be arrived at. The acceptance, however, is coupled with a statement that some act of aggression on the part of those who control the military forces of Mexico might force this government to act promptly and withdraw this acceptance. But in the meantime it is agreed that anything which the three South American republics are able to do will be co-operated in by this government.

President Wilson has made public the following correspondence: "Legation of the Argentine Republic, Washington, April 25, 1914. 'Mr. Secretary of State:—With the purpose of subserving the interests of peace and civilization in our continent and with the earnest desire to prevent any further bloodshed to the prejudice of the cordiality and union which have always surrounded the relations of the governments and peoples of America, we, the plenipotentiaries of Brazil, Argentina and Chile, duly authorized thereto, have the honor to tender to your excellency's government our good offices for the between the United States and Mexico.

"This offer puts in due form the suggestion which we had the occasion to offer heretofore on the subject to the secretary to whom we renew the assurances of our highest and most distinguished consideration.

(Signed) D. DAGAMA,
R. S. TAON,
EDO SUAREZ MUJICA

President Wilson's Reply.
To this message President Wilson, through Secretary of State Bryan, sent the following reply:

"The government of the United States is deeply sensitive to the friendliness, good feeling and the generous consideration for the peace and welcome of America, manifested in the joint note just received from your excellencies, tendering the good offices of your governments, to effect if possible, a settlement of the present difficulties between the United States and those who now claim to represent our sister republic in Mexico. Conscious of the purpose with which the proffer is made, this government does not feel at liberty to decline it. Its own chief interest is in the peace of America, the cordial intercourse of her republics and her people, and the happiness and prosperity which can spring only out of frank, mutual understanding and the friendship which is created by common purpose. The generous offer of your governments is, therefore, accepted. The government hopes most earnestly that you may find those who speak for the several elements of the Mexican people willing and ready to discuss terms of satisfaction, and, therefore, permanent settlement. If you should find them willing, this government will be glad to take up with you the discussion in the frank and most conciliatory spirit any proposals that may be authoritatively formulated, and will hope that they may prove feasible and prophetic of a new day of mutual co-operation and confidence in America.

"This government feels bound in candor to say that its diplomatic relations with Mexico being for the present severed, it is not possible for it to make sure of an uninterrupted opportunity to carry out the plan of intermediation which you propose. It is of course possible that some act of aggression on the part of those who control the military forces of Mexico might oblige the United States to act to the upsetting of the hopes of immediate peace, but this does not justify us in hesitating to accept your generous suggestion. We shall hope for the best result within a time brief enough to relieve our anxiety lest ill-considered hostile demonstrations should interrupt negotiations and disappoint our hopes of peace."

The proposals for mediation are being formulated by the Brazilian, Chilean and Argentine ministers. They will have to be submitted to Huerta for his acceptance. There is nothing in Washington to indicate whether he will accept or not and his action will hinge on the nature of the proposal. Nothing has been given out as to the probable attitude of Caranza and Villa on the mediation plan. The first bluff judgment of Washington officials is that the mediation plan will be a failure in view of the chaotic conditions in Mexico, and the inability

STRINGENT ACT PROPOSED.

Gainful Occupations on Sunday Forbidden By Bill.

Initiative petitions seeking an amendment to the present statute forbidding gainful occupations on Sunday will soon be in circulation in Polk county. The proposed act is more stringent than the one now in force, extending the scope of the restriction to Sunday ball games, theaters and pool halls operated for profit or gain. The bill also increases the severity of the punishment for violations from a maximum of \$50 to \$100 fine. The plan is to have all petitions signed in time for submission of the question to the voters at the regular election in November.

The present law governing Sunday occupations makes it unlawful to keep open on Sunday any store, shop, grocery, bowling alley, billiard room or tipping house for the purpose of labor or traffic. It is provided, however, that this provision shall not apply to the keepers of drug stores, doctor shops, theaters, undertakers, livery stable keepers, butchers or bakers.

The proposed law is aimed particularly at Sunday ball games, and theaters, with pool halls included with the billiard halls. It does not, however, apply to Sunday diversions that do not involve commercialism.

PLAN IS BIG SUCCESS

HOME CREDITS SYSTEM PROVES PROFITABLE.

Fairview Cited As Example of What May Be Accomplished in Educational Work.

A desire to improve home conditions, an active part in the industries of the farm, the raising of poultry and livestock, an improvement in the school work, better attendance, and a healthier appearance on the part of the pupils are declared results of the home credit system, in operation in some of the rural schools of Polk county.

Under the plan, the pupils receive credit at school for the distance they walk each day going to and from school, chores done at home, proper care of body, sleeping with windows open, care of teeth, hair, etc. When the pupils have acquired 800 points each they are given a holiday, but in few cases has advantage been taken of the day, as encouragement has been given in the knowledge that a day lost was the loss of a day's work as well. Tardiness on the part of any pupil doing the work means a loss of so many credits already accumulated.

At Fairview the pupils took up the work at the beginning of the term of 1913-14 and carried it through the entire school year. During the previous year at Fairview the school had a record of 95 per cent in attendance and 59 tardies. For the term in which the home credit system was in vogue the record was 98 per cent in attendance and eight tardies. The parents of the district say the pupils are doing more work at home than they ever did before, and that the industrial education the children are receiving is of great value.

Many Highway Improvements.

The highways leading in all directions from Rickreall are in splendid condition, writes a correspondent. For several months road supervisors have been making improvements which increase materially the joys of travel. Approaches to bridges have been made better and several new concrete structures across the small streams have added much to the quality of the highway. The roads leading from Dallas to Salem and Monmouth to McMinnville via Rickreall, are considered two of the smoothest roads in the county. Several years ago "slough gravel" was placed in the roads for miles around Rickreall and now this is packed so that it resembles concrete.

Children May Drive Autos.

While the motor vehicle law prohibits persons under 16 years obtaining state licenses as chauffeurs, the same law allows children of any age to take out operators' licenses, which gives them the privilege of operating motor vehicles. This is the gist of a decision rendered by the Attorney-General. A youth had demanded a chauffeur's license. This being refused, he demanded an operator's license, for which the state makes no charge. The law establishes no minimum age for operators.

Stick to Your Party.

If an elector registers as a member of one political party, and then affiliates with another, he is subject to challenge at the polls and in order to vote must swear that he is a bona fide member of the party that he registered as a member of, according to an opinion rendered by Attorney-General Crawford.

HOME TEAM WINS THE PROHIBITION TICKET

Portland Baseball Tossers Are Easily Defeated.

HIGHS DEFEATED AT AMITY PENNINGTON FOR CONGRESS

University of Oregon Team Will Meet Dallas Aggregation Here on Friday.

Notwithstanding the inclement weather of Sunday afternoon, when cold rains descended and bleak winds blew, the Dallas baseball team, under the captaincy of Walter Tooze, took the Portland Transportation Co.'s aggregation to a cleaning by a score of 7 to 3. The locals won on their merits, outplaying the visitors from an all-round point of view. Technicalities were injected into the performance at more frequent intervals than was really necessary for the good of the sport, but it was baseball law and it went. As an instance, in the sixth, Piteber Myers of the locals became disabled while making the circuit, and when he arrived at goal three, Captain Tooze relieved him and sneaked one over the platter, which substitution benched the Dallas twirler for the balance of the game. Piteber occupied the square in the seventh, but was touched up with such frequency that he gave way to Mitchell, an elongated visitor unknown hereabouts, who served faithfully if not remarkably well to the finish. Mitchell has a straight one with whippers and a spit in its dotage.

The Observer's sporting reporter undertook to follow the play, but the lead in the pencil congealed and refused to make the necessary hieroglyphics, so he just shivered and cut his eye teeth. Portland started off by drawing three successive blanks, captured a prize in the fourth, two more in the sixth, making a total of three. Dallas scored in four of its eight times up, getting two in the first, three in the second, one in the fourth and one in the sixth—a total of seven. The line-up was: Dallas—Myers, pitcher; Serr, catcher; Woods, short; Boydston, first; Baldersee, second; Rice, third; Cooper, right; Tooze, center; Barham, third.

Portland—Monroe, pitch; McAllister, catcher; Whitten, short; Tingley, first; Driscoll, second; Manning, third; Ross, right; McHale, center; Braee, left.

Dust of the Diamond.

Modern baseball puts the kibosh on pants—that is, the common ordinary, everyday kind. When Mitchell first insinuated his towering form in the vicinity of the pitcher's box last Sunday for Dallas, the uppermost part of his anatomy was concealed by the regulation "duds", but he wore only trousers further south. "Tut-tut! get a uniform," commanded the visiting umpire, and Mitchell was driven back to his stall to don the full rig.

The University of Oregon team will meet Dallas on the local field next Friday afternoon, when an exceptionally interesting contest may be expected. The college is credited with having a strong aggregating of sphere manipulators, but nevertheless local fans predict a victory for Manager Sibley's colts, who are now playing some ball.

The Amity High School baseball team defeated the Dallas High Saturday afternoon on the Amity grounds, score, 4 to 2. The battery for Amity was R. Brown and P. Brown; for Dallas, Beverance and Bennett.

There is still some question in the minds of the fans as to whether Portland's umpire was discharging that function or coaching for the metropolis.

A feature of Sunday's game was Cooper's long run for a fly, by swatting which he prevented a score for the visitors.

The baseball season has been a distinct disappointment to the local management and fans, the weather having been most unfavorable.

Teachers Are Hired.

The Falls City board of education has employed six school teachers, and the remaining two will be selected tomorrow. Those employed are Miss Graham, Miss Waters, the Misses Edith and Clara Montgomery, Miss Anderson, Miss Mehrling.

Will Observe Memorial Day.

The old soldiers held a meeting last Saturday and completed arrangements in reference to the observance of Memorial Day. A full report of the meeting will be published later, as well as the program.

Buys Coad Pool Hall.

Mr. L. M. Blinn, who for twenty-five years has been with the Oregon Electric Co. at Multnomah Station, has bought the old Coad pool hall, which recently went to bankruptcy.

new books have been received, they being as follows: "How to Enjoy Pictures," by Emery; "Pictures Every Child Should Know," by Bacon; "Great Artists," in five volumes; "The Meaning of Pictures," by Van Dyke; "Everyday Problems in Teaching," by V. Shea; "The Business Man's Library," in ten volumes; "Diana of the Green Van," by Dalrymple; "It Happened in Egypt," by Williamson; "Gold," by White; "The Lady and the Pirate," by Hough; "The Gringos," by Bower; "The Light of Western Stars," by Grey; "Cap'n Dan's Daughter," by Lincoln; "The Foreigner," by Connor; "Ben Hur," by Wallace.

League Entertainment.

The Epworth League of the Methodist church will give an entertainment next Friday evening, when the following program will be rendered: Cello solo, J. C. Uglow; vocal duet, Mrs. W. I. Tooze, Jr., Miss Bertha Serr; reading, Mrs. F. G. Simonton; vocal solo, Miss Edna Morrison, reading, Mrs. Harry Volheim; vocal solo, Mrs. W. L. Tooze, Jr.; one-act comedy, "Ma's New Boarders," with eight characters.

Change of Closing Hour.

Please bear in mind, dear reader, that hereafter The Observer will go to press at noon on Tuesday and Friday, and that all matter intended for publication must be in the office by 10 o'clock on these days.

SCOTT IN NEW HANDS

MR. A. L. HALL OF WASHINGTON NOW IN COMMAND.

He Purchases Furniture and Leases Building for Term of Six Years. Comes from Washington.

The New Scott hotel on Monday came into the possession of Mr. A. L. Hall, late of Goldendale, Washington, he having bought the furniture and fixtures from Wm. Ridsdale and leased the building for a term of six years. Mr. Edward Trites of Portland arrived in Dallas yesterday and will be associated with Mr. Hall in conducting the hostelry. "Some improvements are contemplated," said the new proprietor to The Observer, "but just what they will be has not been fully determined upon. I believe Dallas has a splendid future before it—anyway it looks good to me."

Mr. Hall for fifteen years conducted a hotel at Goldendale, Washington, and comes here with good recommendations as a caterer to the traveling public. Mr. Mann, the former manager, and his wife, left yesterday for Raymond, Washington.

GOVERNOR WANTS NAMES.

Opportunity Offered to Join New Cavalry Regiment.

Mayor J. G. Van Ordel has received the following communication from Governor West concerning the proposed cavalry regiment. The letter has been sent out to all mayors of Oregon cities, and is self-explanatory: "So many letters are coming to this office from those who are anxious to join the Cavalry Regiment now being organized by Lieutenant Hennessey, I am taking the liberty of sending you herewith several petitions for the signatures of those in your community who wish to organize a troop. Should these blanks be returned by those interested with a reasonable number of signatures steps will be taken to get in touch with the parties and aid them in perfecting an organization. I would appreciate anything you may do to bring this matter to the attention of the young men in your community. Yours sincerely, Oswald West."

May Attend School for a Day.

Members of the Dallas school board will, in the near future, be invited to visit Portland for a day, and there given an opportunity for first hand study of progressive educational methods in use in the schools of that city, including manual training and domestic science. The invitation will be extended by Superintendent Alderman, who plans to make it state wide.

Streets Are Improved.

On Saturday last—Good Roads day throughout the state—the students and citizens of Monmouth worked ten hours improving the main streets. The workmen, dressed in overalls, attracted considerable attention laboring with shovels and picks. They cleaned and leveled three-fourths of a mile of street. The laborers were entertained at dinner by the Oregon Normal domestic science girls.

Payment is Withheld.

Setting forth the claim that street paving done in that city by the Linden-Kibbe Construction company does not conform to specifications, Independence has declined to make final payment for the work done there. A balance of \$6,000 is being withheld, and an expert will pass upon the pavement for the council.

FIRE LOSS HEAVY

Stubblefield Residence and Barn Are Wiped Out.

FAMILY ABSENT AT THE TIME.

Horses and Cattle in Pasture, Thus Saving Themselves From Cremation.

The residence and adjoining farm buildings of Mr. Ira Stubblefield, one mile south of Dallas, were completely destroyed by fire Saturday night, entailing a loss estimated at \$7500, partially covered by insurance. The fire had its origin in the barn, a short distance from the family residence, and quickly communicated with the other buildings, reducing all to ashes in a remarkably short time.

The family was in Dallas at the time of the conflagration, and consequently can only surmise how the fire started. The horses and cattle were in the pasture, thus escaping cremation in the barn, which, like the dwelling, was a very substantial structure.

The illumination of the south part of town, caused the fire alarm to be sounded and the department responded promptly, but the scene of the destroying element was beyond its reach. The unfortunate Stubblefields have many friends in Polk county, all of whom will regret to learn of their loss.

VETERANS WILL ORGANIZE.

Application Made for G. A. R. Charter by "Boys in Blue."

The following soldiers of the late civil war have signed an application for a charter to organize a post of the G. A. R. at Dallas and will meet at the court house at two p. m., Saturday, May 2, to complete the organization and elect the various officers. All comrades who wish to take part in the meeting will be welcome. James M. Inman, Co. H, 36th Oregon Inf., H. P. Shriver, Co. A, 1st Oregon Inf., T. J. Charington, Co. E, 2nd Ohio Inf., E. H. McDougal, Co. G, 18th Wisconsin Inf., E. L. Johnson, Co. A, 27th Mich. Inf., David M. Smutetz, Co. C, 8th Iowa Cav., John V. Roney, Co. D, 7th Maine Inf., P. S. Greenwood, bugler, Co. E, 10th Ill. Cav., Isaac Phillips, Co. A, 15th Ill. Inf., Numa Arnold, Co. F, 2nd Wis. Cav., R. B. Carpenter, Co. I, 168 Penn. Inf., Ira Wakefield, Com. Sgt. Field and Staff, 1st R. I. Cav., Chas. McDevitt, Co. H, 8th Iowa Inf., B. Lovelace, Co. A, 39th Iowa Inf.

New Block Under Way.

Work has been inaugurated on another new business structure on Main Street, north of Mill, where Mr. David Crider has awarded a contract to Barham Bros. for a two-story reinforced concrete block to cost in the neighborhood of \$7,000. The building will be of modern architectural design, and will add very materially to the appearance of that part of town.

Rains Damage Currants.

J. S. Macomber, who resides on the Oakdale road, was in Dallas on Saturday and told a representative of The Observer this week that currants would not exceed half a crop. The early cold rains damaged the blossoms, and the berry is dropping. Mr. Macomber has one thousand bushes, covering more than an acre of ground, and is the only extensive grower of currants in this immediate locality.

Commissioner, Too, Gets Busy.

County Commissioner S. H. Petre observed Good Roads day last Saturday by joining the farmers of this district where he formerly resided in improving the highway. Fifteen farmers volunteered their services, and with their teams worked diligently throughout the day. Others who were too busy with their farm work, gave assurance that they would contribute their full share in the near future.

Meets With Painful Accident.

While enjoying a day in the country last Sunday, Mr. Morris Dalton, manager of the Sterling Furniture Company, had the misfortune to sprain his right ankle, as a result of which accident he now wears a cane. While at the Simpsons farm near Hopewell he was frolicking in the barn, and in jumping from the loft sprained the cords of the ankle.

Lecture Thursday Evening.

At the High School Auditorium, Thursday evening, April 30th, Dr. Shafer of the U. of O. will lecture on, "The Citizen's Attitude Toward Public Affairs." This lecture is in the University Extension cause and the public is cordially invited.